

PROVIDER ACCESS POLICY

Pendle Vale College



Document Control:

This document has been approved for operation within:	Pendle Vale College				
Status	Statutory				
Owner	Pendle Vale College				
Date effective from	September 2026	Date of next review	June 2027	Review period	Annually

1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out Pendle Vale's arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students at the College for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer.

It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in years 7 to 11 for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships.

Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these students.

This is outlined in section 42B of the [Education Act 1997](#).

This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Rationale

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding. It supports them to acquire the self-development and career management skills they need to achieve positive employment destinations. This helps students to choose their pathways, improve their life opportunities and contribute to a productive and successful economy.

As the number of apprenticeships rises every year, it becomes increasingly important that all young people have a full understanding of all the options available to them post-16 and post-18 including wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

4. Commitment

Pendle Vale College is committed to ensuring there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students, for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships. Pendle Vale College is fully aware of the responsibility to set students on the path that will secure the best outcome which will enable them to progress in education and work and give employers the highly skilled people they need. That means acting impartially, in line with the statutory duty, and not showing bias towards any route, be that academic or technical.

Pendle Vale College endeavours to ensure that all students are aware of all routes to higher skills and can access information on technical options and apprenticeships (The Department of Education, July 2021: "Baker Clause": supporting students to understand the full range of education and training options, and the Provider Access Legislation, January 2023).

5. Aims

Pendle Vale College's policy for access to other education and training providers has the following aims:

- To develop the knowledge and awareness of our students of all career pathways available to them, including technical qualifications and apprenticeships.
- To support young people to be able to learn more about opportunities for education and training outside of school before making crucial choices about their future options.
- To reduce drop out from courses and avoid the risk of students becoming NEET (Young people not in education, employment or training).

6. Student Entitlement

Pendle Vale College fully supports the statutory requirement for students to have direct access to other providers of further education training, technical training and apprenticeships. The school will comply with the new legal requirement to put on at least six encounters with providers of approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships. This will be done for school activities for National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week, as part of discrete timetabled PHSCE lessons, in addition to providers attending regular careers events at Pendle Vale College for Review Afternoon, Parents Evenings or Pastoral Days.

Opportunities for Access:

Several events, integrated into the school careers programme, will offer providers an opportunity to come Pendle Vale to speak to pupils/and or their parents/carers.

These include:

- Parent Evenings
- Year 9 Options Evening
- Year 11 Mock GCSE results support
- Lunch time Drop ins
- Regular career related assemblies
- Annual STEM and Enterprise activities
- STEM activities for Year 6 students as part of our new intake day.
- Year 10 Mock Interviews
- Work experience
- Pendle Vale Alumni are regularly invited to participate in events.
- Review Afternoons
- Parents Evenings
- Pastoral Day Careers events.

7. Development

This policy has been developed and is reviewed annually by Dr Nasima Riazat (Careers Leader) based on current good practice guidelines by the Department for Education.

8. Links with other policies

It supports and is underpinned by key school policies including those for Careers, Child Protection/Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity, and SEND.

9. Equality and Diversity

Access to other providers is available and promoted to allow all students at Pendle Vale College to access information about other providers of further education and apprenticeships. Pendle Vale College is committed to encouraging all students to make decisions about their future based on impartial information.

10. Provider requests for access

Requests for access should be directed to:

Dr Nasima Riazat (Careers Leader/Level 6 qualified Careers Advisor) who may be contacted by telephone or email as follows:-

Email: n.riazat@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk

Telephone: **01282 682240**

11. Grounds for granting requests for access

Access will be given for providers to attend during school assemblies, timetabled Careers or Life lessons, and Careers or Raising Aspirations events that Pendle Vale College is arranging. Students may also travel to visit another provider as part of the trip to be organised in partnership with **Pendle Vale College**.

12. Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access

The College will make the lecture theatre, conference room or classrooms available for discussions between the provider and students, as appropriate to the activity as agreed. All classrooms will have computers, projectors and screens provided. The College will also make available to laptops/projectors and other specialist equipment to support provider presentations. Dr Riazat (School Careers Lead/Careers Adviser) will organise this, working closely with the provider to ensure the facilities are appropriate. Appropriate safeguarding/DBS checks will be carried out. Providers will be met and supervised by the Careers Lead who will facilitate this.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus or other relevant course literature for our Careers Library in the LRC (Learning Resource Centre on Level 1), which is managed by Dr Nasima Riazat. This facility is available to all students at lunch and break times and before and after school.

13. Live/Virtual encounters

Pendle Vale College will consider live online encounters with providers where requested, and these may be broadcast into classrooms or the school assembly hall. Technology checks will be required in advance to ensure compatibility of systems.

14. Parents and Carers

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents may be invited to attend the events to meet the providers.

15. Management

Dr Nasima Riazat (Careers Leader) coordinates all provider requests on the behalf of Pendle Vale College.

16. Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about this policy should be raised to Dr Nasima Riazat, email: n.riazat@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk.

Dr Riazat will raise the complaint to Mrs Louise Morgan (Assistant Headteacher) or Mr Oliver Handley (Headteacher).

17. Monitoring review and evaluation

The Policy is monitored and evaluated annually via the Governing Body.

Appendix

Providers who have been invited into Pendle Vale College to date include:

- Nelson & Colne College;
- Burnley College;
- Craven College;
- Blackburn College;
- Training 2000 Blackburn;
- North Lancs Training Group (NLTG);
- Skipton Girls Sixth Form;
- Emystead's 6th Form;
- Clitheroe Royal Grammar 6th Form;
- St Christopher's 6th Form, Accrington.

Destinations of previous pupils from Pendle Vale College include:

- Nelson & Colne College;
- Burnley College;
- Craven College;
- Blackburn College;
- Training 2000 Blackburn;
- North Lancs Training Group (NLTG);
- Skipton Girls Sixth Form;
- Emystead's 6th Form;
- Clitheroe Royal Grammar 6th Form;
- St Christopher's 6th Form, Accrington.